

Disgraced Worksheet

1. Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.

The play takes place in modern day New York. The main character is Amir, an Arabic lawyer who feels embarrassed about Islam. His wife, Emily, is inspired by Islam and is a painter. Emily is painting a portrait of Amir in the beginning of the play. She notes the connection between her portrait of Amir to a famous portrait of a Moore.

2. What is the *intrusion*?

It is when Amir is accused of being tied to Islamic terrorism.

3. What is the *unique factor*?

Amir might be promoted soon, but he has to reveal his past with Islam during a time when Islamophobia is on the rise.

4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?

Will Amir ever come to terms with Islam?

5. List some of the *themes* of the play.

Islamophobia, domestic abuse, shame, racism, hatred, morality of a person vs morality of the religion

6. What do the principal characters *want* and what are some *obstacles* that stand in the way of them getting what they want?

Amir wants to be able to leave Islam cleanly, but he can't since people will always view him as a Muslim due to the way he looks, and his family being more accepting of Islam and questioning why he would renounce it. He wants to help his family, but his shame of Islam conflicts that. He wants to get his promotion, but his attitude towards people and the way he looks also conflicts that.

7. After having seen the Town and Gown production of the play write a paragraph each on the following:

a. overall quality of the production, realizing that it is not a fully mounted (financially supported) work on the season of Town and Gown.

The production conflicted with my time schedule as that weekend my mother wanted to see me before she left for Washington DC. Although I'm sure that the quality of the production was superb, and if anything I am very surprised that a theatre in Athens would play a show addressing islamophobia during our current social and political climate. I think it's a very brave move, even more considering that they were not a financially supported work.

b. comment on the acting and focus on your favorite role and it's execution.

I would be excited to watch a performance of Amir and Emily, particularly. Amir because he's the main character who goes through this identity crisis almost, and Emily because she's a woman who has been abused by her husband and has an affair with a Jew. I want to see the actor play her convincingly as a person not to be villainized, but as a downtrodden woman.

c. evaluate the directing focusing on the casting of the roles, stage movements, set design, costume design, lighting design, and sound design for the show.

I hope the production kept the set simplistic and realistic. Since the play takes place in a New York apartment, I imagine the space to be cramped but cozy in its own way. I want the lights to help with the transition and the atmosphere of the scene, as well as to emphasize a character. I hope they play the rustle and bustle of New York in the background, and just any noises to make it believable that this could be our next door neighbors. For the casting, as long as it's race-specific, that's all I could hope for. For costumes, I think Amir would tote around nice suits to show off his new self, and Emily would wear colorful clothing to show off her personality as an artist.

d. any unique factors about the production that stand out.

I, unfortunately, do not know the answer to this. :^(

